



NATIONAL STAFF DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Action Research

facilitator's handbook

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Action Research: Techniques for Gathering Data

- > **Interviews** - with students, parents, teachers
- > **Checklists** - of skills, behaviors, abilities, movement, procedures, interactions, resources
- > **Portfolios** - of a range of work from students of different abilities around a particular topic; a representation of a total experience; a collection of documents for analysis.
- > **Individual Files** - of students' work, e.g. tapes, samples of work, art work, memos, photos of models/projects, reports; of students' opinions; of student attitudes; of students' experiences
- > **Diaries/Journals** - written by teachers, students, parents, class groups, teachers
- > **Field Notes/Observation Records** - informal notes written by a teacher
- > **Logs** - of meetings, lessons, excursions, school expectations, materials used
- > **Student-Teacher Discussion/Interaction** - records of comments and thoughts generated by students
- > **Questionnaires** - of attitudes, opinions, preferences, information
- > **Audiotapes** - of meetings, discussions in class or about data gathered, games, group work, interviews, whole class groups, monologues, readings, lectures, demonstrations
- > **Videotapes** - of classrooms, lessons, groups, demonstrations, a day in a school, lunch times
- > **Still Photography** - of groups working, classrooms, faces, particular students over time, at fixed intervals in a lesson
- > **Time-On-Task Analysis** - of students, teachers; over a lesson, a day, a week
- > **Case Study** - a comprehensive picture/study of a student or a group of students

Observation Methods for Action Research Projects

